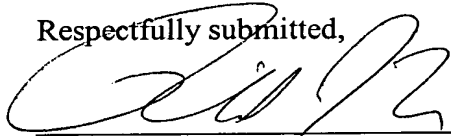


**REMARKS**

The above amendment cancels claim 54 without prejudice or disclaimer to simplify the issues on appeal. Applicants do not wish to prosecute this claim without the proposed amendment made on November 3, 2003.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: February 2, 2004

RJT/jqs